

From: [Fugh, Justina](#)
To: [Bowman, Liz](#)
Cc: [Minoli, Kevin](#)
Subject: I answered my phone ... (maybe I should stop doing that)
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:45:00 PM

.... and twice it's been reporters wanting to know about ethics clearance of waivers for Mr. Pruitt's travel. They refer to a recent Washington Post article that quotes you as saying that "ethics officials cleared the travel" or something like that. Well, oops, I say, I don't think that Ms. Bowman meant to say that the ethics office cleared that because we are involved only if there is the offer of third party payment for travel. But I've been clear that I'm not saying that anyone failed to get ethics clearance; rather, that no ethics clearance was necessary because those trips appear to be using appropriated dollars, which is not an ethics issue.

Then I got a call from someone at ProPublica who wants to know why there appears to be a discrepancy between the number of approved waivers from the Trump pledge for EPA employees (we say we have 3) but OGE has posted only two. The OGE press person seemed stumped, so they called me. Yikes!

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